

HOUSE RESOLUTION 80
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Reverend C.D. "Bud" Gentry upon the occasion of his 30th anniversary as pastor of Dewey Christian Church.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are especially pleased to recognize those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm over the years to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such dedicated pastor is the Reverend C.D. "Bud" Gentry, who has led the congregation of Dewey Christian Church in Mountain City, Tennessee, for the past thirty years; in that role, he has provided guidance and spiritual inspiration to his congregation and others through his whole-hearted and dedicated leadership in church and community affairs; and

WHEREAS, born in Mountain City in 1951, Bud Gentry was raised in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he attended the public schools and Business College; later, he went on to earn both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Theology as well as his Doctor of Divinity degree from Christian Bible College and a Bachelor's degree in Christian Family Counseling and two years additional study at Emmanuel School of Religion; and

WHEREAS, also during his young adulthood, the Reverend Gentry served as an Advertising Manager for Westinghouse in North and South Carolina and served six years in the United States Air Force and the National Guard; he married the former Nancy Bowen in 1973, and, together, they are the proud parents of Melissa Grace; and

WHEREAS, in May 1975, Bud Gentry answered the call to become pastor of Dewey Christian Church, a struggling community of faith with some 20-25 members at the time; during

his pastorate, the church undertook and completed three building programs and acquired additional property due to growth; and

WHEREAS, presently Dewey Christian Church is enjoying the completion of its fourth building program that includes a new and much larger worship facility, educational wing and fellowship center on property acquired adjacent to the old building; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his pastoral duties at Dewey Christian Church, the Reverend Gentry finds time to conduct ten to twelve revivals each year across the eastern United States, and to accept many invitations to speak at conventions and rallies; he has preached at the National Prayer Clinic in Grundy, Virginia, "Winning in Winchester" in Winchester, Virginia, and at many other special gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Gentry is a published author whose writings include several commentary notes on the New Testament; having a wonderful musical talent, he often presents musical concerts – both solo and with his family as a trio - and performs Gospel Bluegrass. Many churches, the National Prayer Clinic, and state and local conventions have enjoyed his music; and

WHEREAS, during his 30 years at Dewey Christian Church, the Reverend Gentry has rendered tireless and faithful service to the Lord, his congregation, and the greater community, showing forth his joy in being a part of what God is doing in the world and preaching Christ unashamed and unafraid; his labors in the Vineyards of the Lord have borne much fruit and are therefore worthy of celebration; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we join with the members of Dewey Christian Church in honoring the thirty years of dedicated and dynamic ministry of their Pastor, C.D. "Bud" Gentry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we thank the Reverend C.D. Gentry and his family for their many years of service to their church, community, and state and offer our best wishes for many more happy and productive years in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

